



The President's Daily Brief

~~Top Secret~~ 14 November 1966



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DAILY BRIEF
14 NOVEMBER 1966

1. South Vietnam

Having papered over the cracks in his cabinet, Ky will probably now turn his attention to the problem of General Quang. [REDACTED]

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Sacking Quang is unlikely to provoke a crisis equal to the dismissal of General Thi in I Corps since it would not arouse the Buddhists. It would, however, antagonize most southerners and heat up regional animosities.

Ambassador Lodge reports that the Saigon rumor mill has Quang's removal imminent. Ky is probably lining up solid military support before making any definitive move against Quang.

2. Communist Bloc

Bulgarian party first secretary Zhivkov has become the first bloc leader to endorse the proposal--originally advanced by minor nonbloc parties--to convene a world Communist meeting to "deal with the new problems facing the Communist movement," i.e., China.

Zhivkov's statement at his party's congress does not bring such a meeting much closer, however, since Rumania, North Vietnam, North Korea, and others continue to oppose it. It does, however, indicate that the issue is still very much alive for some parts of the Communist world and will be a recurrent theme in future conclaves.

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3. Jordan

The Jordanians feel they are caught in the cross fire between Israel and the Arab extremists.

King Husayn believes that Israel deliberately chose to attack Jordan because it was militarily easier than attacking Syria--the real instigator of terrorist attacks on Israel. The Jordanians are particularly piqued because they believe they have done everything possible to prevent terrorists on their soil from entering Israel, while Israel has not made a comparable effort to police its side of the border.

Ambassador Burns in Amman still feels the Jordanians will not resort to further military action. He notes, however, that Jordan's Army took a bad mauling Sunday and strong pressures for a reprisal could develop.

4. India

Indira Gandhi's reorganization of her cabinet is an attempt by the government and the Congress Party to set their house in order, both to meet India's urgent problems and to prepare for February elections. Her government may be nearing the end of its tenure.

Famine is the most pressing of India's problems, and continuing adverse weather is hampering corrective measures. The government finds itself more and more preoccupied with domestic violence as the demands of a modern society press in on a traditional people.

Internationally, India faces a hostile Pakistan and a militant China with a growing nuclear capability. And failure of the nonaligned nations to form a cohesive group has left India isolated.

The Congress Party will probably use the February elections as a means of replacing Mrs. Gandhi with someone better able to exercise the firm leadership that India's multiple difficulties require.

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